

From: Adam
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:09pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft is a monopoly. There is nothing wrong with that. Microsoft is using that monopoly to strangle the rest of the computer industry. There is something wrong with that.

I don't care about "punishing" Microsoft. I want to not have to think about Microsoft at all. Perhaps I should explain why.

I am a software professional. I program software for a living. I am passionate about my enterprise. I am also a patriot. I have a Degree in Computer Science from a small technical school on the Banks of the Hudson River, The United States Military Academy at West Point. I was commissioned into the Infantry and Served with the 25th Light Infantry Division in Hawaii. After my Army time, I returned to the civilian sector and began work as a programmer. My Army time not that far behind me, I was constantly reminded of things I could use my new skills to solve that would have helped in the military, everything from planning for training to recording the army physical fitness test. But there was one reason why I would not have been able to do that. Security.

You see, I was working with Microsoft technology at the time. I was writing network software for accessing an IBM based mainframe system. The clients were MS Windows machines. It became apparent that security went as far as the end of the OS/390 system. Once we were in the MS realm, we were on our own. The problem was, there was no access into the layers to ensure security. To summarize, building on a Microsoft system, we were stuck with a single way to do things, and no options to do the things we needed to do.

The settlement must ensure one thing. That no one company, person, or organization have a strangle hold on an industry that is vital to interstate commerce on so many levels. The internet was a product of the US government. To turn control over to one Company would be comparable to opening Yosemite National Park to quarrying. Microsoft currently owns the client end of internet connectivity by owning both the Desktop Operating System of Choice, and the two primary Internet Client Applications, the Internet Explorer Web Browser and Outlook Email Client. This puts every other business that is dependant on those two things, dependant on one company.

- 1) The settlement should provide for the splitting off of IE and Outlook from the main operating system.
- 2) The Mozilla Browser should be installed by default. Mozilla is available as Free/Open Source software and will not cost Microsoft anything to install. Mozilla shall be inspected by a government agency

to ensure it complies with open standards.

3) The proposed distribution of MS software to Schools shall be stopped. Any financial burden placed on MS should be in straight financial terms, and not allow them to further their Monopoly.

4) MS will be required to include the Java Run Time from Sun or from IBM, or from another 3rd party with its operating system. Java is the most powerful cross platform application framework, and this will allow people to develop code that will not tie them to the Microsoft platform.

Very Respectfully,

Adam Young